U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Complete if Known Not Yet Assigned 10/656 244 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE **Application Number** Filing Date September 8, 2003 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor Akira KANAWAGA et al (use as many sheets as necessary) Not Yet Assigned Art Unit 2879 Examiner Name Not Yet Assigned A. PATEL Sheet Ι, of 1 Attorney Docket Number 740145-270 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** U.S. Patent Document Cite No.¹ Examiner Initials Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Name of Patentee or Number - Kind Code (if known) Applicant of Cited Document Relevant Figures Appear ap US-6,459,202 B1 10/01/2002 Kira et al US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-US-FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Foreign Patent Document Pages, Columns, Initials' Publication Date Name of Patentee or Lines, Where Relevant Kind Code³ MM-DD-YYYY Application of Cited Document Country Code³ Number⁴ (if known) Passages or Relevant Figures Appear OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Examiner Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the T2 Initials item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.)., date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Date

Considered

6/8/05

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Examiner

Signature

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.